



The Texas Board of Professional Engineers' (TBPE) Board e-Newsletter

**March 7, 2014**

The TBPE eNewsletter is your quarterly update on information about the Texas PE License and Licensing Board and is a supplement to the TBPE Express annual printed newsletter.

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Read below for more info:

**Criminal History Record Check - REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW. DON'T WAIT!**

By law, all active PEs must complete a criminal history record check (CHRC) prior to renewing their license. Everyone with a March PE renewal needs to make sure they do it ASAP. All other PEs can also register and complete the process at any time. It is strongly recommended to begin the process as soon as possible as the scheduling process for in-state engineers may take several weeks. For out-of-state engineers, the process can take even longer. Do not wait until the last minute, your license renewal will not be processed until this requirement has been met.

The background on this requirement: Earlier this year, the Texas legislature passed a change to the Texas Engineering Practice Act that requires all active PEs to have a Criminal History Record Check prior to renewing his/her license in 2014. This requirement was a result of standard licensing model recommendations by the Sunset Commission, and is similar to requirements for other professions in Texas. The Board has worked diligently with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and its state-selected vendor, MorphoTrust, to develop the process. The procedures to complete the CHRC are now in place and you can register to set up an appointment to complete this requirement at any time. For instructions on how to complete the CHRC and for additional information, go to <http://engineers.texas.gov/recordcheck.html>.

**Board Meeting Update**

The Texas Board of Professional Engineers Quarterly Board and Committee Meetings were held February 12 and 13, 2014.

Disciplinary Actions: All enforcement actions approved in the board meeting are posted on the TBPE website. Enforcement actions are reported based on the date of the board meeting at which the actions were taken. Refer to: <http://engineers.texas.gov/disciplinary.htm>

Video: Video clips of the Board Meeting are available at <https://engineers.texas.gov/recordings.htm>

**Computer Based Testing**

The Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam is now being delivered via computer-based testing and is available year round instead of just two times per year. Please encourage all young engineers to register online and take the FE exam - they don't need to wait for April or October any more. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.ncees.org>.

**Ethics Webinars and Outreach**

TBPE continues to offer Ethics outreach presentations both in person and in a webinar format for the convenience of our licensees. The next date for the ethics webinar is June 5, 2014. Please see our webpage - <http://engineers.texas.gov/webinars.html> - for more information. Registration for the events will be announced one month in advance.

If you are interested in scheduling a TBPE Ethics presentation, please contact outreach coordinator Dorothy Gonzales to make your request at [outreach@engineers.texas.gov](mailto:outreach@engineers.texas.gov).

And more:

Give us feedback on how we are doing by filling out our customer service survey. Please visit our website at <http://engineers.texas.gov/feedback> or call us for a paper survey. We want to hear your suggestions on how we can improve agency operations and service delivery.

In keeping with our efforts to modernize and increase communication with our licensees and the public, you can now follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and via an RSS feed. Join today!

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NOTE: This email was sent from an unmonitored mailbox; direct replies will not be read. To contact the Board, please visit our website at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/>

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